

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

Approved For Release 2001/08/31 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100030046-5

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MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/OEI/WHIZ 740321

CIA/WHSS

SOURCE REF:

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TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR MCNAMIS,
STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER FOR MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION CIA
REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO MR JOHN YEO.

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS
INVOLVED

ITEM NO: 1

DATE: 21 MAR 74

SUBJECT: CAMBODIA: MOVE ON KHMER COMMUNIST STANCE ON NEGOTIATION
REF : PARIS ENBTCL 06976, 201321Z MAR 74, CONF/LINDIS

A SENIOR FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL IN PARIS HAS GIVEN
A US EMBASSY OFFICER AN ACCOUNT OF A RECENT CONVERSATION IN PEKING
BETWEEN THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR AND SIHANOUK'S "PRIME MINISTER,"
PENH NOUTH. THE LATTER MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WANTED HIS REMARKS
RELAYED TO WASHINGTON. ACCORDING TO THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR, MR
PENH NOUTH STRESSED THAT THERE CAN BE NO POLITICAL DEALINGS
WITH THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT AND THAT "US EFFORTS" TO CREATE SUCH
A DIALOGUE ARE IN VAIN. TALKS BETWEEN SIHANOUK'S "GOVERNMENT"
AND THE US, NOUTH SAID, ARE THE ONLY POSSIBLE FORM OF NEGOTIATIONS.
HE ADDED THAT SIHANOUK'S OFFER FOR SUCH TALKS STILL STANDS AND THAT

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IF THE US DOES NOT RESPOND THE WAR WILL CONTINUE FOR "AS LONG AS NECESSARY." REGARDING THE LATTER STATEMENT, MOUTH INDICATED THAT THE PROLONGATION OF THE CAMBODIAN CONFLICT WILL SERVE TO ENHANCE THE KHMER COMMUNISTS' POLITICAL POWER AT THE EXPENSE OF "MODERATES" LIKE HIMSELF AND SIHANOUK.

THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ALSO RECOUNTED A TALK HE HAD RECENTLY WITH THE SENIOR KHMER COMMUNIST REPRESENTATIVE IN PARIS. THE LATTER STUCK TO THE SAME TOUGH LINE ON NEGOTIATIONS THAT HE HAD EXPRESSED EARLIER. AFTER MAKING OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE INSURGENT'S MILITARY PROSPECTS IN CAMBODIA, THE COMMUNIST OFFICIAL RULED OUT ANY NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO A COALITION GOVERNMENT. IN ADDITION, HE SAID THAT THERE COULD BE NO "THIRD FORCE" SOLUTION FOR CAMBODIA AND THAT A TERRITORIAL DIVISION OF THE COUNTRY WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION. HE ALSO TOOK SOME PAINS TO PROCLAIM THE KHMER COMMUNISTS' INDEPENDENCE BY SAYING THAT THEY ARE "NOT ALWAYS IN AGREEMENT WITH THEIR FRIENDS." THAT STATEMENT MAY REFLECT KHMER COMMUNIST DIFFERENCES WITH CERTAIN OF THEIR ALLIES OVER THE QUESTION OF NEGOTIATIONS. E2 IMPDET.H

DATE: 22 MAR 78
ORIG: [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
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